

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT ADVISES CHRISTIANS AND ASSEMBLYMEN TO BE DISCREET

1. SPEAKING TO PRO-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN AND CABINET OFFICIALS AT THE BLUE HOUSE MAY 9, PRESIDENT PARK CALLED FOR HEIGHTENED VIGILANCE AGAINST COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO TAKE OVER THE ROK BY POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY MEANS AND SPECIFICALLY ADVISED CHRISTIANS AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN TO BE CAUTIOUS. HE DESCRIBED VIEWS OF FOREIGNERS ON KOREA AS WELL-MEANING BUT BASED ON DIFFERENT VALUES AND, BY IMPLICATION, MISGUIDED.

2. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WAS LEAD STORY IN ALL PAPERS UNDER HEADLINES SIMILAR TO CHOSUN ILBO "ASSEMBLYMEN MUST SPEAK WITH CAUTION." STORIES CONTAINED LENGTHY QUOTATIONS FROM TEXT SUPPLIED BY BLUE HOUSE SPOKESMAN. EXCERPTS ARE:

QTE WE ARE NOW IN A CRITICAL SITUATION IN WHICH THE COMMUNISTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO COMMUNIZE THE WHOLE KOREAN PENINSULA BY EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS,.....

NOT ONLY BY FORCE, AS DEMONSTRATED IN THE PAST, BUT ALSO ILLEGAL POLITICAL STRUGGLES, SLANDER AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE. UNQTE
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QTE (IF THEY SUCCEED) THIS MEANS AN END NOT ONLY TO INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND HAPPINESS BUT TO KOREAN TRADITIONS AND CONTINUITY, IN OTHER WORDS, THE DOWNFALL OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE. UNQTE

QTE IF A NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMAN, THOUGH GRANTED LEGAL IMMUNITY FOR HIS REMARKS IN THE ASSEMBLY, SPREADS RUMORS OR FALSEHOODS, THIS WILL BENEFIT THE COMMUNISTS, ALBEIT UNINTENTIONALLY. UNQTE

QTE PARTICULARLY, CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS SAY THEY HAVE A WALL AGAINST COMMUNISM. (BUT COMMUNISTS DON'T ADVERTISE THEIR IDENTITY AND CARELESS TALK CAN HELP THEM.) THERE WAS ANOTHER SUCH CASE IN RECENT DAYS. THEREFORE, THERE MUST BE SELF-CONTROL AND A LIMIT ON FREE CRITICISM IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. UNQTE

QTE SOME FOREIGNERS, NOT UNDERSTANDING OUR HARSH REALITY, MAY TALK ABOUT OUR COUNTRY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THEIR OWN VALUES. THIS IS A SELL-MEANING EXPRESSION OF A FRIEND'S OPINION. HOWEVER, THE PEOPLE WHO MUST ENDURE AND OVERCOME THESE HARD TIMES ARE NOT THESE FOREIGN FRIENDS BUT OUR KOREAN CITIZENS. THEREFORE, IT IS UP TO US, ACTING CONFIDENTLY, TO FIND OUR OWN WAY. UNQTE

3. COMMENT: THIS IS ANOTHER OF PARK'S PERIODIC WARNINGS TO ALL AND SUNDRY POSSIBLE OPPOSITION THAT GOVT WILL NOT ACCEPT UNRES- TRAINED POLITICAL CRITICISM. PRESS HAS FOCUSED ON PRESIDENT'S IMPLICIT WARNING TO ASSEMBLYMEN, BUT HIS MESSAGE IS EQUALLY CLEAR TO CHRISTIANS AND OTHERS.

4. GOVT HAS SHOWN INCREASING IRRITATION OVER FOREIGN RELIGIOUS AND PRESS COMMENT ON ROK DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS. PARK'S COMMENTS APPEAR AN IMPLICIT DECLARATION THAT HE WILL NOT BE DETERRED IN HIS DOMESTIC POLCIES BY FOREIGN CRITICISM.
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